



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held December 7, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Health Services' recommendation to authorize the Director to sign two new agreements for the provision of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) services for health education/risk reduction services, counseling and testing services, and prevention case management services with Bienestar Human Services, Inc., for a maximum obligation of \$955,434 and with Asian Pacific Healthcare Venture, Inc., for a maximum obligation of \$41,202 for Service Planning Area 8 for a total County maximum obligation of \$996,636, effective January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

"In October, I requested that the Auditor-Controller look into possible improprieties in the latest round of contracting for the HIV Prevention Grant in the southern portion of my District.

"My concerns turned out to be valid based on the findings in the Auditor-Controller's November 29, 2004 report. The report stated that there were calculation errors. Also, some elements of the evaluation appeared subjective and were not backed by written justification. In one case, there were two conflicting evaluations for one part of the score which neither management nor the program manager responsible for rating the agency could explain. Also, the critical scoring phase was internally run by Office of AIDS Programs and Policies (OAPP) with some subjective scoring done by individual OAPP employees rather than panels with independent evaluators. To compound the problem, certain evaluation documents were destroyed which created a gap in the ability to complete an audit trail.

(Continued on Page 2)

“This lack of checks and balances inevitably leads to concern about the fairness and objectivity of the process.

“The Auditor-Controller made five improvement recommendations. The first two call for mathematically correcting and checking the calculation of the current scores. The other three would be implemented in the next round of contracting for these services.”

Rosa Molina, Jimmy Ramos, Oscar De La O, Vilma L. Mendoza, and Victor Martinez, representing Bienestar Human Services, Scott Gray, Edna Romero and other interested persons addressed the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Knabe made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich that the Board take the following actions:

1. Accept the Auditor-Controller's November 29, 2004 recommendations for the Office of AIDS Programs and Policy;
2. Extend four existing HIV prevention agreements with Being Alive Long Beach (#H211852) for \$68,932; Joint Efforts (#H211933) for \$166,706; South Bay Family Health Center (#H212194) for \$39,567; and South Bay Family Health Center (#H207525) for \$58,740, for a six-month County maximum obligation of \$333,945, for six months, effective January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005;
3. Authorize the Director of Health Services to extend the contracts on a month-to-month basis after June 30, 2005, pending the Department of Health Services' accelerated use of an improved Request for Proposal process; and
4. Reject the Department's contract recommendations and instruct the Director of Health Services to reject all outstanding proposals for the services in SPA 8. Instruct the Director of Health Services, in consultation with the Auditor-Controller, to initiate a new request for proposals for these services, incorporating the recommendations set forth in the Auditor-Controller's report.

Said motion failed to carry by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Burke and Knabe; Noes: Supervisors Yaroslavsky, Antonovich and Molina.

(Continued on Page 3)

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the Director of Health Services' aforementioned recommendation. By the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Burke, Yaroslavsky, Antonovich and Molina; Noes: Supervisor Knabe, the Board adopted the Director of Health Services' attached recommendation.

Attachment

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Director, Office of
AIDS Program and Policies